

1           What is claimed is:

2

3       **1.** A method for configuring a computer to obtain status information for subsequent print  
4 jobs to a printer, the method comprising:

5           supplying a proxy printer driver in place of an actual printer driver associated with  
6 the printer.

7

8       **2.** The method of claim 1 further comprising:

9           configuring the computer to spool RAW datatype to the printer.

10

11       **3.** The method of claim 1 further comprising:

12           storing a unique identifier of the computer.

13

14       **4.** The method of claim 3 wherein the computer utilizes an operating system having a  
15 registry, and the storing step comprises:

16           storing the unique identifier of the computer in the registry.

17

18       **5.** The method of claim 1 further comprising:

19           setting a flag so as to indicate that the computer is able to provide status for print  
20 jobs on the printer.

21

22       **6.** The method of claim 5 wherein the computer utilizes an operating system having a  
23 registry, and the flag is within the registry.

24

25       **7.** The method of claim 1 further comprising:

26           hooking a function in the actual printer driver.

27

28       **8.** The method of claim 1 further comprising:

29           hooking a function in an interface to the actual printer driver.

30

1 **9.** A method of gathering status for a print job from a computer to a printer, the method  
2 comprising:

3       executing a proxy printer driver while producing the print job, wherein the proxy  
4 printer driver is a proxy for an actual printer driver;  
5       inserting into the print job a unique identifier of the print job; and  
6       querying at least one of a spooler and the printer regarding status of the print job.  
7

8 **10.** The method of claim 9 further comprising:  
9       detecting inception of the print job.  
10

11 **11.** The method of claim 9 further comprising:  
12       producing a notification of the status of the print job.  
13

14 **12.** The method of claim 9 wherein the step of executing the proxy printer driver  
15 comprises:

16       receiving a call to a function; and  
17       calling a corresponding function in the actual printer driver.  
18

19 **13.** The method of claim 9 wherein the step of executing the proxy printer driver  
20 comprises:

21       producing RAW data.  
22

23 **14.** A computer readable medium on which is embedded a computer program, the  
24 program comprising:

25       a proxy printer driver translation part, the proxy printer driver translation part  
26 being a proxy for an actual printer driver translation part.  
27

28 **15.** The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein the program further comprises:  
29       a status configuration utility.  
30

- 1   **16.** The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein the program further comprises:  
2       a status monitor.  
3
- 4   **17.** The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein the program further comprises:  
5       a spooler, wherein the spooler comprises a port monitor.  
6
- 7   **18.** The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein the program further comprises:  
8       a graphic device interface.  
9
- 10   **19.** The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein the program further comprises:  
11       a registry.  
12
- 13   **20.** The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein the program further comprises:  
14       the actual printer driver translation part.  
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